

Claims:

1. Polysiloxanes characterized by the following structural elements per molecule:

one element of formula  $(\text{H}_3\text{C})_3\text{-Si-}$  (I),

one element of formula  $\text{-O-Si(CH}_3)_3$  (II),

5 2 to 200, elements in arbitrary order which are either identical or different from each other selected from the group consisting of formulae

$\text{-O-Si(CH}_3)[\text{CH(CH}_3)\text{R}^1\text{]-}$  (IIIa),

$\text{-O-Si(CH}_3)(\text{CH}_2\text{-CH}_2\text{-R}^1\text{)-}$  (IIIb),

$\text{-O-Si(CH}_3)[\text{C(=CH}_2)\text{R}^1\text{]-}$  (IIIc), and

10  $\text{-O-Si(CH}_3)(\text{CH=CH-R}^1\text{)-}$  (IIId);

2 to 200, elements in arbitrary order which are either identical or different from each other selected from the group consisting of formulae

$\text{-O-Si(CH}_3)[\text{CH(CH}_3)\text{R}^2\text{]-}$  (IVa),

$\text{-O-Si(CH}_3)(\text{CH}_2\text{-CH}_2\text{-R}^2\text{)-}$  (IVb),

15  $\text{-O-Si(CH}_3)[\text{C(=CH}_2)\text{R}^2\text{]-}$  (IVc), and

$\text{-O-Si(CH}_3)(\text{CH=CH-R}^2\text{)-}$  (IVd);

optionally 1 to 100, elements in arbitrary order which are either identical or different from each other selected from the group consisting of formulae

$\text{-O-Si(CH}_3)[\text{CH(CH}_3)\text{R}^3\text{]-}$  (Va),

20  $\text{-O-Si(CH}_3)(\text{CH}_2\text{-CH}_2\text{-R}^3\text{)-}$  (Vb),

$\text{-O-Si(CH}_3)[\text{C(=CH}_2)\text{R}^3\text{]-}$  (Vc), and

$\text{-O-Si(CH}_3)(\text{CH=CH-R}^3\text{)-}$  (Vd);

and optionally 1 - 20 elements in arbitrary order of formula  $\text{-O-SiH(CH}_3\text{)-}$  (VI)

wherein  $R^1$  is a UV light absorbing group;

$R^2$  is hydrogen or a lipophilic group;

$R^3$  is a group which is able to form ionogenic or hydrogen bonds.

- 5 2. Polysiloxanes according to claim 1 wherein the number of elements of formulae III is 5 to 80.
3. Polysiloxanes according to claim 1 or claim 2 wherein no elements of formulae V are present.
4. Polysiloxanes according to anyone of claims 1 - 3 wherein no elements of formula VI  
10 are present.
5. Polysiloxanes according to anyone of claims 1 - 4 wherein all substituents  $R^1$  are identical.
6. Polysiloxanes according to anyone of claims 1 - 4 wherein at least two different types of substituents  $R^1$  are present.
- 15 7. The use of a polysiloxane according to anyone of claims 1 - 6 as a sunscreen.
8. The use of a polysiloxane according to claim 7 for the protection of human skin or human hair.
9. Compositions comprising polysiloxanes according to anyone of claims 1 - 6 and at least one pharmaceutically and/or cosmetically acceptable excipient.
- 20 10. Compositions according to claim 9 comprising in addition at least one other UV light protective agent.
11. Compositions according to claims 9 and 10 for topical application.
12. The invention substantially as described hereinbefore especially with reference to the Examples.